acid methyl-butadiene copolymer, styrene-butadiene copolymer and the like can be employed. Furthermore, a rubber material such as butadiene polymer can be employed.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Further, a solution of latex comprising 4 % by weight of styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer was applied to the surface of the hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode, was dried at a temperature of 90 °C for 30 minutes, and then pressed, to fabricate a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode having a coating layer formed thereon composed of styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 21 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In each of the examples 2 to 5, in forming a coating layer on a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode in the example 1, the type of a polymeric material to be employed in a coating layer was changed. Specifically, ethylene-acrylic acid ester copolymer was used in the

example 2; methacrylic acid methyl-butadiene copolymer in the example 3; styrene-butadiene copolymer in the example 4; and butadiene polymer in the example 5, as shown in the following Table 1a. Except that the above-mentioned polymeric materials were employed in the example 2 to 5, a coating layer was formed on a surface of each hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode in the same manner as that in the example 1.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 23 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In the comparative example 5, in forming a coating layer on a surface of a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode in the example 1, 1 part by weight of styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer which was a binding agent was added to 100 part by weight of the above-mentioned hydrogen absorbing alloy powder, to fabricate a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 5 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Except that the coating layer composed of styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer was formed on a surface of a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode in the same manner as that in the example 1, and that a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode employing styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer as both a binding agent in the electrode and a coating layer was employed, an alkaline storage battery in the comparative example 5 was fabricated in the same manner as that in the example 1.

Please replace the Table 1a at page 17, line 1 with the following rewritten Table 1a:

Table 1a

	polymeric material in coating layer	polymeric material in binding agent	output characteristics (V)
example 1	styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer	polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	1.165
example 2	ethylene-acrylic acid ester copolymer	polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	1.164
example 3	methacrylic acid methyl-butadiene copolymer	polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	1.164
example 4	styrene-butadiene copolymer	polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	1.163
example 5	butadiene polymer	polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	1.159
comparative example 1	polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	1.155
comparative example 2	polytetrafluoro-ethylene	polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	1.150
comparative example 3	polytetrafluoro-ethylene, acetylene black and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	1.154
comparative example 4	none	polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	1.158
comparative example 5	styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer	styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer	1.149

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 3 from the bottom with the following rewritten paragraph:

As apparent from the results, compared with each of the alkaline storage batteries in the comparative examples 1 and 5 employing the same polymeric material as both binding agent and coating layer, each of the alkaline storage batteries in the comparative examples 2 and 3 employing fluorocarbon resin as a coating layer to be provided on a surface of a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode, and an alkaline storage battery in the comparative example 4 not having a coating layer on a surface of a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode, in each of the alkaline batteries in the examples 1 to 5 employing as a polymeric material in a coating layer to be provided on a surface of a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode, styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer, ethylene-acrylic acid ester copolymer, methacrylic acid methyl-butadiene copolymer, styrene-butadiene copolymer and butadiene polymer, and as a binding agent polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone which are different from the polymeric material in the coating layer, output characteristics, charge/discharge cycle performance, internal pressure performance and bond strength were all improved.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 19, line 21 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In each of the examples 1.1 to 1.6, in applying a solution of latex containing styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer to a surface of a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode, to form a coating layer composed of styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer on a surface of a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode in the example 1, a concentration of styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer in the above-mentioned solution of latex was changed. Specifically, the concentration was 0.8 % by weight in the example 1.1, 1.7 % by weight in the example 1.2, 8 % by weight in the example 1.3, 17 % by weight in the example 1.4, 33 % by weight in the example 1.5, and 42 % by weight in the example 1.6.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 10 with the following rewritten paragraph:

A9

When a coating layer composed of styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer was provided on a surface of each hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode as described above, the weight ratio of the coating layer to the total of the coating layer, hydrogen absorbing alloy powder, and a binding agent was 0.1 % by weight in the example 1.1, 0.2 % by weight in the example 1.2, 1 % by weight in the example 1.3, 2 % by weight in the example 1.4, 4 % by weight in the example 1.5, and 5 % by weight in the example 1.6.

Please replace the Table 2 at page 22, line 1 with the following rewritten Table 2:

Table 2

a coating layer : styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer a binding agent : polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone			
	weight ratio of coating layer (% by weight)	output characteristics (V)	bond strength (number of squares whose electrode material is put off)
example 1.1	0.1	1.160	22
example 1.2	0.2	1.163	20
example 1	0.5	1.165	20
example 1.3	1	1.164	20
example 1.4	2	1.163	20
example 1.5	4	1.161	20
example 1.6	5	1.160	20

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 5 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Further, in the example 1.1 to 1.6, an example of a case where styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer was employed to form a coating layer was shown. However, ethylene-acrylic acid ester copolymer, methacrylic acid methyl-butadiene copolymer, styrene-butadiene copolymer and butadiene polymer are employed to form a coating layer, the same results can be obtained.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 13 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In each of the examples 1.7 to 1.11, in applying a solution of latex consisting 4 % by weight of styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer to a surface of a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode, drying the above-mentioned solution, to form the coating layer composed of styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer on the surface of the electrode in the same manner as that in the example 1, the temperature at which the above-mentioned solution was dried for 30 minutes was 30 °C in the example 1.7, 50 °C in

the example 1.8, 60 °C in the example 1.9, 80 °C in the example 1.10, and 100 °C in the example 1.11, as shown in the following Table 3.

A12
Cont.

Please replace the Table 3 at page 25, line 1 with the following rewritten Table 3:

Table 3

a coating layer : styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer a binding agent : polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone			
	drying temperature (°C)	output characteristics (V)	bond strength (number of squares whose electrode material is put off)
example 1.7	30	1.160	23
example 1.8	50	1.162	20
example 1.9	60	1.164	20
example 1.10	80	1.165	20
example 1	90	1.165	20
example 1.11	100	1.163	22

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 25, line 6 from the bottom with the following rewritten paragraph:

As apparent from the results, in applying a solution of latex consisting styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer to a surface of a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode, drying the above-mentioned solution, to form the coating layer composed of styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer on the surface of the electrode, in each of alkaline storage batteries in the example 1, 1.9 and 1.10, wherein the temperature at which the above-mentioned solution was dried was 60 to 90 °C, output characteristics and bond strength were improved, compared with each of alkaline storage batteries in the example 1.7, 1.8 and 1.11, wherein the foregoing temperature was out of the above-mentioned range.